

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

CG-00 PM-07 DODE-00 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03 OIC-04 IO-13

PA-03 SCS-03 SCA-01 PRS-01 USIA-12 /126 R

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ARA/ CAR: JBURKE

L/ ARA: DGANTZ

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P 272228 Z JUN 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN PRIORITY

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

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FOR THE AMBASSADOR

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, GY

SUBJECT: CARIBBEAN SAR CONFERENCE

REF: (A) COMDT COGARD 251918 Z JUNE 73; (B) GEORGETOWN 813;

(C) GEORGETOWN 862; (D) COMDT COGARD 030110 Z MAR 73

1. REFERENCED COAST GUARD MESSAGES STATE THAT, CONTRARY
TO IMPLICATIONS OF GOG NOTE (GEORGETOWN 862), U. S. HAS
NOT RPT NOT TERMINATED PUERTO RICAN- BASED SEARCH AND
RESCUE OPERATIONS NOR DO WE HAVE ANY INTENTION OF SO DOING.
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IF THE JULY 26-28 SAR CONFERENCE (REF C) IS BEING CALLED TO DISCUSS ALTERNATIVES TO THE REPORTED TERMINATION OF US SAR ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN, WE SEE NO REASON FOR OUR ATTENDANCE.

2. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF THE OBJECTIVE OF THE TRINIDAD SAR MEETING IS TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM PARTICIPATION OF CARIBBEAN GOVERNMENTS AND THE MOST EFFECTIVE USE OF THE REGIONS SAR RESOURCES, WE BELIEVE THAT (A) THE MEETING SHOULD BE BROADENED TO INCLUDE ALL CARIBBEAN GOVERNMENTS AND (B) CONFERENCE SHOULD BE POSTPONED TO A LATER, MUTUALLY CONVENIENT DATE, E. G., THE LAST QUARTER OF 1973.

3. DEPT HOPES THAT THE GOG NOTE INFORMING EMBASSY THAT SEPARATE INVITATIONS TO PROPOSED SAR CONFERENCE WOULD BE SENT TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF PUERTO RICO AND THE U. S. VIRGIN ISLANDS IS AN OVERSIGHT AND NOT REPRESENTATIVE OF A NEW GUYANESE ATTITUDE TOWARD THOSE AREAS. WE WOULD REGARD ANY SUGGESTION THAT SEPARATE INVITATIONS BE SENT TO THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OR PUERTO RICO TO BE INAPPROPRIATE. IF THE US IS TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY CARIBBEAN SAR CONFERENCE, IT WILL BE IN RESPONSE TO A SINGLE INVITATION; AND THE USG WILL DETERMINE WHETHER, GIVEN THE NATURE OF THE MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED, PUERTO RICAN AND/ OR U. S. V. I. REPRESENTATION ON THE U. S. DELEGATION IS APPROPRIATE.

4. SUGGEST THAT YOU SEEK OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THESE TWO NOTES WITH RAMPHAL, DRAWING UPON FOREGOING AS APPROPRIATE AND MAKING FOLLOWING POINTS:

(A) U. S. SAR CAPABILITY IN CARIBBEAN REMAINS INTACT AND WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF TERMINATING IT;

(B) WE BELIEVE THAT CARIBBEAN SAR CONFERENCE MIGHT BE USEFUL BUT ONLY IF IT INCLUDES ALL GOVERNMENTS IN THE REGION AND IF ADEQUATE ADVANCE PREPARATIONS ARE MADE;

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(C) JULY IS TOO EARLY A DATE FOR SUCH AN EXPANDED CONFERENCE AND WE SUGGEST CONSULTATIONS WITH GOVERNMENTS INVOLVED WITH VIEW TOWARD RE- SCHEDULING CONFERENCE FOR SOMETIME IN LAST QUARTER 1973;

(D) THE SUGGESTION THAT PUERTO RICO AND THE U. S. VIRGIN ISLANDS BE INVITED TO THE SAR CONFERENCE IS A

MATTER FOR THE USG TO DECIDE. IN ANY EVENTS WE ASSUME
THAT THERE WILL BE BUT A SINGLE INVITATION FOR THE
US AND ITS POSSESSIONS.

ROGERS

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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